

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-15 AGR-20 STR-08 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-03

TAR-02 RSR-01 /209 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 330

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AXEXBASSY TOKYO 6392

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 19664

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: FOREIGN REACTION TO US EXPORT CONTROLS - PROPOSALS TO
COUNTERACT SPREAD OF MISINFORMATION

REF: OECD 19129

1. SUMMARY. I AM DISTURBED BY THE AMOUNT OF MISINFORMATION
ABOUT OUR EXPORT CONTROL MEASURES ISSUING FROM OFFICIAL
FOREIGN SOURCES AND MEDIA AND SUGGEST THAT
WASHINGTON TAKE TWO MEASURES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF OECD TO
COUNTERACT IT. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON
REACTION TO PROPOSALS SET FORTH BELOW. END SUMMARY
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2. I AM DISTURBED BY THE AMOUNT OF MISINFORMATION ABOUT OUR EXPORT CONTROL MEASURES WHICH WE HEAR AND SEE IN THE MEDIA AND SOMETIMES HAVE PARROTTED BACK TO US BY USUALLY RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER, I RECOGNIZE THAT SOME DELIBERATELY DISTORT INFORMATION FOR THEIR OWN ENDS BUT THINK NONETHELESS THAT WE SHOULD NOT LOSE ANY OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP THE FACTS BEFORE GOVERNMENTS AND THE PUBLIC GENERALLY. TWO MEASURES IN OECD CONTEXT COULD HELP TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION. FIRST, THE AGREED COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE OECD AGRICULTURE MINISTERS AT THEIR MEETING APRIL 12 (PRESS/A/73/13 FINAL) CONTAINS FOLLOWING LANGUAGE: "MINISTERS... CONSIDERED IT DESIRABLE TO MAKE A FULLER USE OF THE O.E.C.D. AND OF ITS COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE FOR AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIKELY TRENDS IN AGRICULTURAL MARKETS. ON THE BASIS OF THIS EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, THEY WOULD BE IN A POSITION JOINTLY TO ASSESS THE SITUATION OF MARKETS AS WELL AS THE PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT ARISE, WITH A VIEW TO AVERTING OR OVERCOMING POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES WITH REGARD TO EQUILIBRIUM ON WORLD MARKETS AND TO THE REGULAR FLOW OF WORLD TRADE."

BELIEVE SECRETARY BUTZ COULD USE THIS AND OTHER LANGUAGE IN THE COMMUNIQUE AS POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR A PERSONAL LETTER TO HIS OECD COUNTERPARTS WITH A VIEW TO EXPLAINING A) UNUSUAL SET OF FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH EMERGED RAPIDLY AND FORCED US TO INSTITUTE EXPORT CONTROLS AND SURVEILLANCE ON RANGE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS; B) SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF SITUATION WHICH PRECLUDED TRADITIONAL OECD PRACTICE OF PRIOR CONSULTATION WHEN MEASURES OF SUCH IMPORTANCE CONTEMPLATED BY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS; C) EXPLANATION OF CONTROL-SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM INCLUDING CONSIDERATIONS DESIGNED TO INSURE MOST EQUITABLE POSSIBLE ALLOCATION OF SHORT SUPPLY ITEMS. D) EXPERIENCE TO DATE IN CARRYING OUT PROGRAM; E) OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE , INCLUDING LIKELY DURATION OF PROGRAM IN LIGHT OF PROSPECTS FOR NEXT CROP YEAR; F) SUCH IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS AS US MAY WISH TO MAKE FOR REINFORCED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO COPE WITH OR AVOID SITUATIONS SUCH AS WE ARE NOW GOING THROUGH. TO BE EFFECTIVE, LETTER SHOULD BE FRIENDLY, DISPASSIONATE, POSITIVE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TONE AND NOT DEFENSIVE. AT THE SAME TIME, IT SHOULD PLACE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON OBJECTIVE FACTORS SURROUNDING SITUATION WHICH DO NOT SEEM ADEQUATELY TO HAVE GOTTEN THROUGH TO EUROPEAN OFFICIALDOM OR MEDIA. IN THIS CONNECTION I AM STRUCK FOR EXAMPLE BY COGENT ANALYSES CONTAINED IN USIS WIRELESS FILE NO. 135, JULY 14, BYLINERS "CASEY ON EXPORT CONTROLS" AND DEPENDABLE WHEAT SUPPLIER NEEDS DEPENDABLE CUSTOMERS" AS WELL AS

IN OTHER OFFICIAL US STATEMENTS. WHAT IS NEEDED NOW IS
A COGENT SYNTHESIS OF US CASE PREPARED FOR SELECTIVE DIS-
SEMINATION, WHICH WOULD PRODUCE EARLY MULTILATERAL IMPACT.

3. PROCEDURALLY, LETTER COULD BE SENT DIRECTLY TO
SECRETARY BUTZ'S COUNTERPARTS AND CIRCULATED SIMULTANEOUSLY
TO OECD DELEGATIONS. FULL TEXT OR SUBSTANTIAL PARTS OF
LETTER COULD THEN BE RELEASED TO PRESS. SLIGHTLY MODIFIED
VERSION OF LETTER COULD BE SENT TO AGRICULTURE MINISTERS
IN IMPORTANT NON-OECD CONSUMER COUNTRIES.

4. SECOND MEASURE OPEN TO US IN OECD CONTEXT, AND ON
WHICH WASHINGTON ALREADY WORKING, IS PROMPT, COMPREHENSIVE,
WELL-CONCEIVED NOTIFICATION OF US MEASURES TO OECD TRADE
COMMITTEE (REFTEL). NOTIFICATION AND SUBSEQUENT CON-
SULTATION EXERCISE OFFER OPPORTUNITY PARTICULARLY IN
OFFICIAL CIRCLES, TO TRY TO RECOVER LOST GROUND AND
RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN OUR RELIABILITY AND CREDIBILITY
AS SUPPLIER. WE SHOULD TREAT THIS AS SERIOUS MATTER
WORTHY OF OUR BEST EFFORT.

5. ABOVE SUGGESTIONS FIT IN WITH, OR ARE RELATED TO, PERSONAL
INITIATIVE TAKEN JULY 17 BY SEC GEN VAN LENNEP WHO, UNDER OTHER
BUSINESS IN COUNCIL, MADE A STATEMENT EXPRESSING HIS CONCERN
ABOUT IMPLICATIONS OF EXPORT RESTRICTIONS(WITHOUT NAMING ANY
COUNTRY) AND NEED FOR TRUE MULTILATERAL CONCERTATION ON BEST
WAYS OF SOLVING PROBLEMS CONCERNING ALLOCATION OR USE OF ITEMS
IN SHORT SUPPLY. MISSION REPORTING VAN LENNEP STATEMENT BY
SEPTTEL.
BROWN UNQUOTE
BROWN

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